

Church News.

EXTRACTS FROM A LETTER.

DEAR BROTHER GNAGEY:—I send you copied extracts from a letter received this day from Brother Balsbaugh. He says at the close, "If there are passages in this letter you can use to the glory of God, in private or public, give them free course." This is the reason I select and forward the within; and also because Brother B. is an invalid and can only preach the Gospel in this way. I should feel guilty if I withheld material which he taught such a fruitful lesson in humility.

J. C. MACKEY.

DEAR BROTHER:—

I am no schismatic, even where external rupture prevails; therefore I address you as a brother. "Christ in us the hope of Glory," constitutes the Divinely cemented brotherhood, and not the badge or shibboleth of partisanship. * * *

I am a critical reader of the EVANGELIST and find many good things, and also some that sadden me. I am infinitely more interested in Christianity than churchism. All life must have its forms. Even God is not without external correspondence to his essential nature. Phil. 2: 6. Humanity is so distinctly externalized that there is no possibility of mistaking it, and yet no two individuals can be found who are exactly alike. So also in the higher sphere. Much of our ecclesiastical antagonism is decidedly unchristian. We are so absorbed in sectarian characteristics and issues, that we forget that christianity is not being less than the incarnation of God. If we are not "partakers of the Divine nature" and "temples of the Holy Ghost," our church relationship and devotion to ordinances are of no account. * * *

How rare the crucifixion claimed by Paul in Gal. 2: 20. And yet it is the very substance and glory of christianity. I am enraptured with the hyperboles of the Bible. Nothing is too extravagant for me that refers to the superabounding grace of Christ. But of nothing am I so afraid as of the displays of self whether gross or subtle. How often it reveals its supremacy when we do not suspect it. There is much personal reference in your paper and ours, that has not only an ominous look but a dangerous tendency. When a minister or contributor runs along the columns of the paper in search of his own name, or eulogistic reference to his work, it is a grave question whether he preaches or writes "as he is moved by the Holy Ghost." "Verily I say unto you they have their reward." "Watch."

A lapse of life so profound and radical as to be remedied by nothing short of the incarnation and death of the Son of God, is not going to be restored without a revolution so deep and mighty as to be in very deed a transition from death to life. The elect are all "the children of the resurrection."

C. H. BALSBAUGH.

Union Deposit, Pa.

FROM PARKERSBURG, W. VA.

DEAR EVANGELIST:—Just a few lines from my pen may be of interest to some of your readers, and will inform you that I am yet alive and doing what I can in the Master's cause. On Saturday, March 23, in company with brother John Showalter, of this place, who was recently elected to the ministry, took the boat on the Kawnawa river, for Elizabeth, the county seat of Wist Co., was met by brother John Gault and conveyed to the neighborhood of the Prosperity church. After a night's rest we commenced services and continued until April 8, when we closed with a glorious communion. The immediate result was, twenty-four baptized and one received from the G. B's; an old man who has been a minister in that church for many years. Among the number baptized were a man and wife who had been raised in the Catholic faith. A good number of them were young people, and a number from families that were not connected with the church. So you see the borders are enlarging. The Prosperity church has a bright future before her, if her members stand to their post of duty. We advised them to send for an outfit, and organize a King's Children society for the benefit of their young people. Hope they may have a pleasant society. If Brother Brown and Wampler do not stop their spatting, I shall be compelled to write an article and show that neither of them is out right. This may sound funny to them, but its according to my mind. So they will please excuse me. Wishing the EVANGELIST family prosperity, I am yours in hope of eternal life.

H. WISE.

FROM SEWARD, KANS.

Brother Beer has just closed a series of meetings for us at this place, and as a result of his labors, three united with the church. Others were "almost persuaded" to become Christians, and had the meetings continued, we feel that they would have taken the necessary steps in that direction. Despite bad weather, and other hindrances, the meetings were well attended, and a general interest was manifested.

M. R. PAXTON.

It is not how long, but how well we live.

FROM GOSHEN, IND.

Perhaps it would interest some to learn of the Union meetings held in Elkhart Co., Ind. The last meeting was held at Gravelton, Ind., April 6, beginning at 2 o'clock P. M. The devotional service was conducted by Rev. I. N. Miller, of the Pleasant View church. The president, Rev. Menaugh, stated the object of the Union meetings. There were several papers prepared and read. Dr. Brumbaugh of Gravelton, subject "Prayer," was largely commented upon. Sister Himebaugh of Dunlaps, subject "Woman's Christian Influence." And Sister Mast of Gravelton, subject, "The Work of the Young in the Church." Both papers were ably discussed. Rev. Menaugh almost preached a sermon, in telling us that we need not go to some far country or large city, to work for Jesus, for there is plenty to do at home and in our own vicinity. Church reports, to be reported since January 12.

| | | |
|------------|-------------------|----|
| Elkhart, | No. of additions, | 10 |
| Mt. Union, | " " " | 12 |
| Gravelton, | " " " | 7 |

An organization of a church at New Paris, of 40 members. K. C. society reports:

| | | |
|------------|----------|----|
| Gravelton, | Juniors, | 18 |
| Elkhart, | " | 47 |
| Nappanee, | " | 14 |
| Dunlaps, | Seniors, | 67 |
| Elkhart, | " | 30 |

It was thought best to have some one to go and organize a K. C. in each congregation in the County, where there was none. And Sister Metzger was elected County organizer. Reports of S. S. C. E. Nappanee, No. of members, 15
Elkhart, " " " 35
Gravelton, " " " 30
There were representatives of each congregation present. The next meeting to be held at Elkhart in three months. The meeting adjourned until July 18.

FROM BURNS' CHAPEL.

After a long silence I will once more send a report of our class. We are not dead neither are we asleep, although we had no accessions during our protracted meeting. But we hope there was much good done. We have had two accessions since our meeting. We organized a King's Children class at the close of our protracted meeting. We have a good live society. We also re-organized our Sunday-school for the summer, and we are using the Brethren literature.

COMMUNION NOTICE.

The Burns' Chapel class will hold communion service May 11. All of like faith are heartily invited.

April 18.

MRS. M. W. SAYGER.